

The Horizon Project



Student Task

The **Horizon Report** of 2008 sees six emerging technologies expected to have an impact in education and creative expression over three time “horizons”.

Just what are these technologies? What may they hold for students and teachers as the future unfolds? What impacts might they have on the nature and structure of learning and teaching? What might they mean for specific subjects and year groups here at Dio?

Well, you are going to have the opportunity to explore these technologies and trends and draw your own conclusions.

You will work in pairs – with one group of 3. This will give us 12 x 2 and 1 x 3 – giving us 13 groups. There are six technologies and seven trends, which means 13 in total.

What will you do?

Task 1:

Each group will have one technology explore, and will present back to the overall class (and judges) just what this technology means to education in general. But more than this – you will analyse just what this technology might mean for learning and teaching at Dio, and still further, what it means in specific subjects – those subjects that are devoting their time to this project.

This means that you need to have a context for as many of your subjects as possible in relation to your technology.

Example: Your group draws **Grassroots Video** as the technology.

You will need to define exactly what Grassroots Video is and then look at how this technology applies to teaching and learning. You then need to look at what this technology might mean for the subjects involved in this project here at Dio. [Social Studies, Religious Studies, PE & Health, Art, Music, Science, Technology, English]. In other words, how could this technology be used to make learning more real for students, in your opinion.

This is where you need to talk with your subject teachers about where what interests you might have some connections with the topics that are either currently taught – or might be taught. (And a smart idea would be to actually create some video that could go in line with one of your topics. In fact, this goes for every technology – you **create** an example of what you are working on – again – this is where your subject teachers can help you in clarifying the topic and where you might head with it)

But technologies impact more than just education. Any given technology may also impact a number of other areas of society. Of interest to the judging panel for this project are the potential impacts of these technologies in the areas of **Science, the Environment and Health; Business, Employment and Government;** and **Arts, Entertainment and Leisure**. So, your research should also consider what impacts your technology might have in these areas.

You will present your findings as a page in a wiki.

In addition, you will present your findings in a live presentation on the last day of the project – currently Friday April 3, though we may bring this date forward if the project takes less time. Exact timing for this will be advised later this week.

Your parents will be invited to attend this presentation, as will other staff and senior management of the school.

This section takes up the major part of the assessment – see the assessment page for how the assessment works.

Task 2:

This is an individual task. Each of you must create a video relating to your technology and how it impacts learning and teaching. This video should be less than 5 minutes in length. Again, the better videos will explain how your technology might be used in actual situations, rather than just a general statement.

Task 3: Reflective Journal

On your wiki site you will create a space for your daily reflection about how your entire project is planned and a detailed account of your learning, the changes to your plan as you move through the process and anything else that is relevant to the overall project you are working on.

Comments:

This is a large, complex task. You will need to use some tools and strategies to break this task down into smaller, manageable chunks so that you have a way of tracking how you are going according to the overall project task. You can use any tool or method that you like or are familiar with. If you are not sure of any of these (eg Bloom's, TASC, scamper/camper etc), then maybe have a chat with your subject teachers to get some help.

Expectations:

Your teachers have high expectations of you in this challenging, inquiry based project. You are expected to record your learning journey on your wiki from now on and your teachers will be working with you on this from now on